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Advancement of women

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women

Human rights questions: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Letter dated 25 August 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on Pakistan issued on 13 August 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Marjatta **Rasi**
Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations

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Annex

Statement on Pakistan issued on 13 August 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union

The European Union has followed with great concern the recent political discussion of "honour killings" in Pakistani society. Such killings, motivated by "family honour", transgress the principles of human rights. The European Union condemns these killings as it condemns all such acts of violence. It urges the Pakistani Government to ensure full protection to all citizens accorded to them under Pakistan's constitution.

The European Union welcomed the statement of the delegation of the Government of Pakistan at the meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva on 14 April condemning the honour killing of Samia Sarwar in the office of advocate Hina Jillani in Lahore. The European Union urges the Government of Pakistan, in accordance with that statement and in conformity with international human rights instruments, including the international Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, to initiate measures to prevent such killings, to prosecute their perpetrators and to leave no doubt about the Government's disapproval of such acts.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus and Malta and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.